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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 14, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 9 totaled an estimated 17.1 billion ton-miles, 1.1 percent below the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 32 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 537.6 billion ton-miles, 0.9 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 9 totaled 372,323, down 1.7 percent from last year, and 1.4 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.3 percent in the West, but down 12.6 percent in the East. There was virtually no change in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 4,323 cars (20.7 percent). Ten of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 2 totaled 99,664 trailers and/or containers, 10.2 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 31 weeks of the year was 2,895,012 trailers and/or containers, up 9.6 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/9/86:

	Loadings in Week ended August 9, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,186	I	4,323	20.7	I	940	3.9
Other farm products	3,121	I	429	15.9	I	411	15.2
Metallic ores	14,810	I	932	6.7	D	858	5.5
Coal	112,870	D	7,950	6.6	I	24	0.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,429	I	688	5.0	D	777	5.1
Nonmetallic minerals	8,810	D	2,305	20.7	I	1,515	19.9
Grain mill products	10,478	I	386	3.8	I	53	0.5
Food and kindred products	10,824	D	71	0.7	D	379	3.4
Primary forest products	9,839	D	332	3.3	D	308	3.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,170	I	264	3.8	D	1,193	14.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,663	D	345	2.7	I	68	0.5
Chemicals and allied products	21,975	D	511	2.3	D	987	4.3
Petroleum products	5,208	I	618	13.5	I	248	5.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,382	D	691	6.2	D	118	1.1
Coke	3,367	D	1,427	29.8	I	86	2.6
Metals and products	7,106	D	1,154	14.0	D	1,968	21.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,874	D	3,174	17.6	D	705	4.5
Waste and scrap materials	7,449	D	950	11.3	I	168	2.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,238	D	3,675	53.2	I	42	1.3
All other carloads	68,437	I	8,446	14.1	D	1,695	2.4
LCL traffic	87	D	67	43.5	D	22	20.2
Total Cars Loaded	372,323	D	6,566	1.7	D	5,455	1.4
Corresponding week of 1985	378,889						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (32 weeks)	11,883,279	11,973,585	D 0.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
31 Weeks ended August 2	520.6	525.0	D 0.8
Week ended August 9	17.1	17.2	D 1.1
32 weeks cumulative	537.6	542.3	D 0.9

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